International House
Accademia Britannica
Roma

CELTA

International House - Accademia Britannica
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Who recognises CELTA?

CELTA is accepted throughout the world by organisations which employ English Language teachers. The Cambridge CELTA is accredited level 5 on the UK National Qualifications Framework. Cambridge ESOL also works with international ELT organisations to ensure the acceptance of CELTA globally. There are five main units of learning on any CELTA course and these are:

Learners and teachers, and the teaching and learning context
Language analysis and awareness
Language skills: reading, listening, speaking and writing
Planning and resources for different context
Developing teaching skills and professionalism.

Duration

A typical CELTA course lasts exactly 20 days. These can be done consecutively over 4 weeks, on an intensive course; or over 3 months, on a semi-intensive course. The daily timetable can vary in format but the content is fairly static due to a core syllabus set out by Cambridge ESOL. A daily timetable for CELTA would generally look like this:

09.00 – 11.00	Teaching Practice	14.00 – 15.15	Seminar
11.10 – 12.00	Feedback	15.15 – 15.30	BREAK
12.00 – 13.00	Group Lesson Planning	15.30 – 16.45	Seminar
13.00 – 14.00	LUNCH		

Teaching Practice

Each candidate teaches for a total of six hours, working with classes at two levels of ability. When you change levels you also change tutor. Assessment is based on overall performance at the end of the six hours. You will teach for between 30 mins to1 hour with other candidates in a 2/2.5 hour lesson. The maximum number of students is 12 in any class. You will be observed by your tutor and the other candidates. This is followed by oral, and then written feedback from the tutor. Oral feedback is a time to be open to critical analysis of each lesson. Feedback is fundamental for your development, a moment to reflect on experience and learn but not always easy to do. Due to the fact that you teach with other candidates, group lesson planning is paramount. Although an hour is planned for this in your 9-5 day we recommend that you set aside time to plan with other candidates outside this time.

Observations

You are also required to observe 6 hours of professionals teaching, 3 of these are on DVD and 3 are live at our centre.

Refunds

Please remember that the moment you have signed to follow a CELTA course at any centre you are obliged to complete full payment of the course fees and relinquish any right to a refund. At the board of directors' discretion we may be able to provide a place on a future course but the dates of the second course are

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non-negotiable.

Seminars

The core seminars on any CELTA course are:

Language skills – reading (X3), listening (X3), writing (X2), speaking (X4)
Language systems – grammar (X4/5), phonology (X3), vocabulary (X3)
Lesson planning (X3)
Literacy
The ELT profession
Error correction

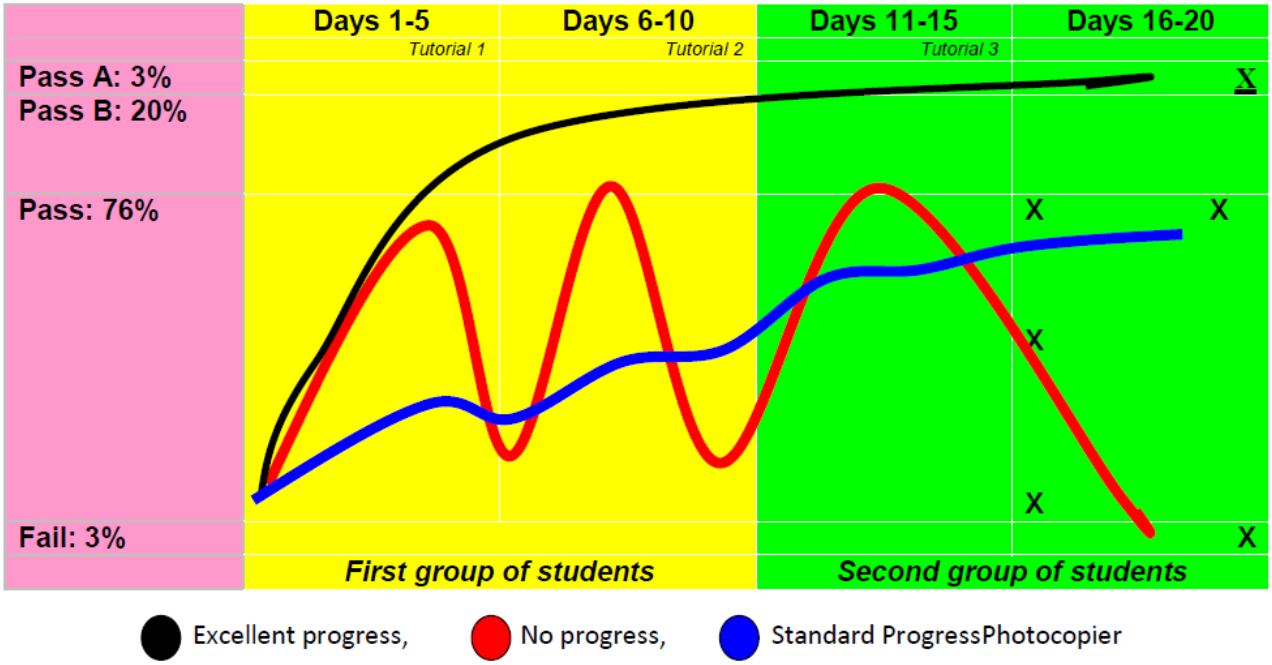
Assignments

Over the duration of the course you are required to complete 3 assessed assignments ranging in length between 750 – 2,000 words. Our centre asks you to complete an un-assessed assignment which is linked to the fourth assessed assignment. These assignments ask you to:

0. Reflect on what you want from the course
1. Focus on a single learner's language
2a. Develop a skills lesson
2b. Analyse language items systematically
3. Reflect on what you have achieved on the course and what teaching skills you still need to develop.

Assessment

The course is based on continuous assessment. This means that all the five units mentioned earlier are part of your assessment. Although this is a training course it does not mean that everyone passes, some people do fail. Here is a scheme of the percentages of candidates who do CELTA:



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Attendance
Attendance of 100% is expected on the CELTA. As CELTA is a course-based award, absences may hinder a candidate's chances of successful fulfilment of the assessment criteria. The Course Tutor has discretion to accept serious reasons for unavoidable absence. Valid reasons for absence would include illness, illness of a close family member, bereavement, job interview etc., and must be supported by some documentation, for example, a letter from a prospective employer.

Our centre
We offer the following services to our candidates:
Lockers
Photocopier
Library
A cautionary refundable deposit is needed to avail of each service. Keep all receipts in order to reclaim the original deposits!

Your space
In addition to these services we provide you with your own study room where computers and printers are available. Due to the fragile nature of computers and the fact that many hands are on these on a daily basis, these computers may misbehave. We strongly advise that you bring a laptop just in case a USB storage pen is also advisable! There are other computers in our study centre, a space for all our students, if you need to use the internet when the computers in your room are busy. All our computers are connected to the internet. In contrast to many other centres we provide an online component to our courses. This acts as an online library for academic reference materials and general course materials. It is a space for you to discuss assignments and lessons in either a chat room or discussion forum. It is accessible at http://celta.wikispaces.com/.

Accommodation
Please note that we can only arrange accommodation from the day before the course begins until the morning after it finishes. Any additional requests, such as extra days or visitors, must be negotiated with the person renting the accommodation. N.B.: The school does not charge a fee for helping to place trainees in their chosen accommodation, but simply acts as a go-between and is not responsible for day-to-day problems which may arise.

Work
Full-time pension-able contracts in Rome are not impossible to find but becoming less frequent than in the past. Initially you may work for 2 or more schools but after a couple of years you are most likely to be offered a contract in a single school. Please visit our work page: http://celta.wikispaces.com/Work.

We are not an employment centre but many schools contact us looking for teachers. We use your personal room to post job adverts that arrive in paper format and a page of your web space is also dedicated to alumni past and present who are looking for work. Please, remember that we are not connected to many of the schools that advertise positions.

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Visas

For non EU citizens getting a working visa is not easy. We recommend that you contact your embassy regarding work visas as beurocracy in Italy is particularly difficult. A single word of advice is to always speak to the same person in order to ensure consistency of instructions regarding your application, otherwise you may be told 101 different things. You may like to visit our web page about applying for visas in Italy as it provides some useful information. It is accessible at: http://celta.wikispaces.com/ALUMNI.

We wish you an enjoyable and successful CELTA at our centre.

Margaret Horrigan
Director of Teacher Training

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Teacher Training Department

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